



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

September 29, 2003



Set against the early morning sky on Monday, September 29, 2003, a tower crane rises 220-feet from the southwest quadrant of the CVC construction site. The crane will be the Capitol Dome's neighbor for at least six months and will be joined by a second tower crane on the north side of the site later this fall. The cranes will be used to place concrete and move materials throughout the project area.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 9/29/03 through 10/3/03

Highlights:

- A tower crane (photo above) was assembled and erected this past weekend and is now operational in the southwest quadrant of the CVC site. The crane will be used to place concrete for the roof deck and the three interior floor slabs. Some portions of the roof deck will remain open to allow for the interior placement of concrete and other construction materials. A second tower crane will be erected on the north side of the site later this fall.
- Crews will continue to erect columns and secure crossbeams in the southwest quadrant. Corrugated steel roof decking will be installed as framing continues. Steel framing is expected to reach the Rotunda Steps by early next week. Approximately 40 steel columns have been erected thus far.
- Crews have installed more than 70 caissons in the southern half of the site. Eventually, 165 caissons will be poured to support all of the steel and concrete columns that will be erected on the CVC site.
- Approximately 300 truckloads of material are being removed each day. Excavation work will diminish over the next few weeks as crews reach the base level throughout the site.

East Front Plaza Work

- Crews will continue to erect steel columns in the southern half of the CVC site during the week. Steel erection work will occur in spurts over the next few months as areas are cleared for installation and as steel is delivered to the site.
- Between 200 and 300 truckloads of soil continue to be excavated and removed each day.
- Excavation continues below the existing Russell Tunnel to clear the way for the CVC truck tunnel.

East Front Extension (Inside the Capitol)

- Demolition of structural elements continues on several levels within the East Front Extension. The work will clear the way for the transition zone between the CVC and the Capitol, which will include escalators, stairwells and two 25-passenger elevators.

Senate Side (Truck Tunnel Zone)

Truck Tunnel Construction:

- CVC truck tunnel construction work continues on the East Front Plaza adjacent to and within the Senate triangular parking area, along Constitution Avenue NW, and along the east side of New Jersey Avenue NW between Constitution Avenue and C Street NW. Excavation is approximately 75 percent complete in this zone.



Nearly 200 feet above ground, a worker connects two sections of a new tower crane erected on the CVC site on Saturday, September 27, 2003.

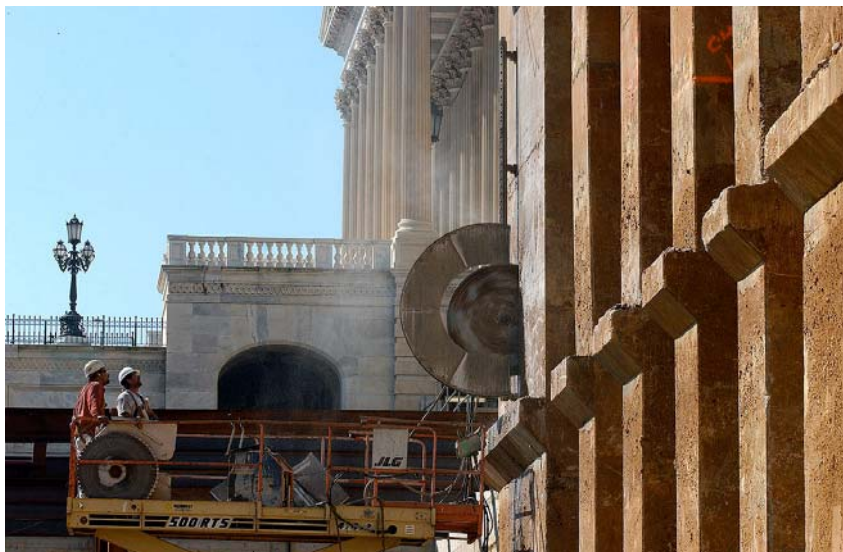
Next Week – Anticipated Work – 10/06/03 through 10/10/03

East Front Plaza Work

- Crews will continue to erect steel columns and crossbeams, and install roof decking in the southern half of the site.
- Excavation will continue throughout the northern half of the CVC construction site. Installation of caissons will continue in the north and central portions of the site.

East Front (Inside the Capitol Building)

- Demolition of structural elements will continue on all levels within the East Front Extension.



Senate Side

- CVC truck tunnel work will continue in all areas of the tunnel construction zone.

Workers use a 4-foot-diameter saw to cut slots into the concrete below the East Front Rotunda steps. Structural steel will be inserted into the slots to support the Rotunda steps and, thereby, allow a demolition crew to remove the existing center concrete columns. Once the columns are removed, a grand staircase will be constructed that will connect the CVC to the Capitol.